

# Southward Bound



*Words Prasadini Nanayakkara Photographs Menaka Aravinda*

Arriving at the Hambantota town, it struck home exactly why “Hamban”, a variety of sailing craft and “tota” that translates to port would have been instinctively united to christen this district lying at the southeast coast. **A FISHING HARBOUR DOMINATES THE IMMEDIATE SURROUNDINGS** of the town with a sea of fishing boats crowded at the shoreline. As if to further ascertain the pulse of Hambantota, a **ROADSIDE STATUE OF A TRADITIONAL FISHERMAN** graces the foreground of the harbour view. This but just the first impression, our sojourns led us to discover a world of its own, waiting to exhale.

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